Principal: Mr S Robson.
Augusta Close, Darlington, DL1 3HT, Telephone: 01325 240499, Email: admin@whinfield.net

Newsletter

Friday 12th September

PARENT AND CARER INFORMATION EVENT

Thank you so much to those who attended our recent 'Meet the New Principal and Information Event'. It was a pleasure to welcome you and share information about the future of the school.

As promised, the presentation from the evening has now been shared with you. We hope it provides a helpful overview and sparks further ideas and conversations.

We would also greatly appreciate it if you could take a few minutes to complete our **short survey**. Your views, ideas, and suggestions are incredibly valuable as we shape the next steps together. Please ensure your responses are submitted by next Friday.

Thank you again for your continued support and engagement.

JEANS FOR GENES WEEK

We're pleased to let you know that our school will be supporting **Jeans for Genes Week** on **Friday 19th September**.

Pupils are invited to wear 'jeans' while keeping the rest of their school uniform on as usual. We kindly ask for a £1 donation, which will go towards supporting children and families affected by genetic conditions.

Jeans for Genes is a national fundraising campaign that helps to fund projects and services that improve the lives of children with genetic disorders. It also raises awareness of the challenges these children face and promotes inclusion and understanding. Thank you for your support in helping us make a difference.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Thank you so much to families who have ensured that pupils have started the school year in the correct school uniform.

We are currently **planning to review the school's uniform policy this term**, and as part of this process, we will be gathering further feedback from staff, pupils, and families. However, until this review is complete and the policy is formally ratified by the school's governing body, we must continue to follow the existing policy.

Please be aware, that should pupils not currently be wearing the full correct uniform, staff will give pupils a gentle reminder or they may chat to parents and carers.

Have a fantastic weekend everybody!

Mr Robson

GEMS Assembly:

The winning team for the weekly GEM Trophy was Diamond! Well done to everyone in Team Diamond! Find out about our GEM procedures here: https://whinfield.net/parents/gems/ .

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Afterschool Activities:

Day	Club	Year group	Time
Tuesday	Boys football training	Year 5 and 6	3:15pm – 4:30pm
Wednesday	Sports hall athletics	Years 4 and 5	3:15pm – 4:15pm
Wednesday	Bulb planting club	Year 4	3:15pm – 4:15pm
Thursday	Basketball	Years 5 and 6	3:15pm – 4:15pm
Thursday	Boys and girls football	Year 3 and 4	3:15pm – 4:15pm

Activities will start week commencing 15th September 2025 and finish week commencing 13th October 2025 (bulb planting club finishes Wednesday 8th October). Children need to be collected after the club by an adult from the Asda entrance. If your child is attending a sporting activity, please send them to school in their school PE kit (no football strips).

Open Evenings for Year 6 pupils transferring to Secondary School 2026:

- Carmel College - Monday 15th September 2025, 5.30pm
- Polam Hall School - Tuesday 16th September 2025, 5.30pm
- St Aidan's CofE Academy - Wednesday 17th September 2025, 5.30pm
- Longfield Academy - Thursday 18th September 2025, 5.30pm
- Haughton Academy - Monday 22nd September 2025, 5.30pm
- Hummersknott Academy - Wednesday 24th September 2025, 5.30pm
- Hurworth School - Thursday 25th September 2025, 5.30pm
- Wyvern Academy - Thursday 2nd October 2025, 6.00pm

Water bottles:
All children should bring a water bottle into school each day which, once empty, can be refilled from the water coolers. We understand that some children do not like plain water so allow children to bring flavoured water (not sparkling) or weak diluted juice.

Parking Safety:
We cannot emphasise enough how important it is that cars park SAFELY. Please do not park across driveways or in the bus lane. You must ensure you drive at a sensible speed and be vigilant as you are driving and parking so that you are always watching where children are walking. The safety of our children is paramount.

Coats:

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As the weather is changing and it is beginning to get colder, please make sure your child brings a waterproof coat to school each day.

Important Dates for Autumn term:

Dates to follow.